

HCS HB 122 -- PHYSICIANS SPORTS MEDICINE SERVICES

SPONSOR: Frederick

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill permits a physician to travel into Missouri with an athletic team and provide sports-related medical services to specified individuals related to the athletic team so long as the physician is currently licensed to practice medicine in another state and has a written agreement with an athletic team located in the state where the physician is licensed. The bill prohibits such physician from providing medical services at a health care facility in Missouri.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill addresses a problem when a physician comes to Missouri with an athletic team as a traveling physician. If there is an adverse event and the physician is not licensed to practice in Missouri, the physician's liability insurance can deny coverage. Some athletic team physicians are paid, but some are volunteer and the goal should be to encourage teams to bring their physicians, not punish them for doing so. These physicians only treat patients with whom they have an existing relationship thus it is clinically appropriate for Missouri to respect that relationship. The physician knows the exact condition of the patient and it is best for the athlete to be treated by the physician who knows the most about the athlete's condition.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Frederick; Missouri State Orthopedic Association; Missouri State Medical Association; and Signature Health Services.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

This bill is similar to HB 2810 (2016).